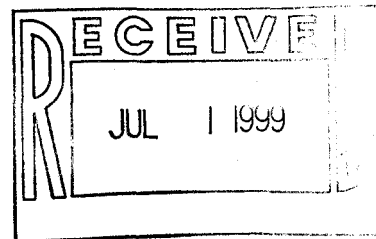




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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 30, 1999

TO: C. Kennedy, K-H, Bldg. 130, X7543

FROM: S.M. Nesta, Environmental Compliance and Operations, T130C, X6386 *smnests*

SUBJECT: NEPA DETERMINATION FOR LOW LEVEL WASTE (LLW) REPACKAGING AT
GTS DURATEK - SMN-095-99

In January, the above subject project was submitted for NEPA/Environmental Systems and Stewardship review. It was recommended that the project received NEPA coverage through a Categorical Exclusion (CX). In February, the project was resubmitted to DOE for approval with a revised waste volume of 5,000 cubic meters rather than the original volume of 2,000 cubic meters of waste. Please find attached the signed CX that was received by my office today, June 30, 1999.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at X6386 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Attachments:

As Stated

cc:

K. North, K-H
T. Hopkins, RMRS
M. Riendeau, RMRS



ADMIN RECORD

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION
REVIEW WAIVER PER
CLASSIFICATION OFFICE

IA-A-001543

Y4

DOE NEPA REGULATIONS SUBPART D
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION - RFFO/CX07-99

Proposed Action: Low Level Waste (LLW) Repackaging

Location: Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Golden, CO and
GTS Duratek, Kingston, TN

Proposed by: U.S. Department of Energy Rocky Flats Field Office (DOE, RFFO)

Description of the Proposed Action:

The Rocky Flats Field Office (RFFO) proposes to ship 500 m³ of LLW, followed by another 300 m³ of LLW, to GTS Duratek in Kingston, Tennessee, during this fiscal year. The wastes are legacy wastes that have been generated at facilities throughout the Site. Upon arrival at GTS Duratek, the wastes will be segregated, repackaged to meet Nevada Test Site (NTS) waste acceptance criteria (WAC), and shipped to NTS.

If the wastes are successfully managed, another 5,000 m³ of LLW could be subsequently shipped to GTS Duratek. Wastes that do not meet NTS WAC will be sent to other approved facilities or returned to Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (Site).

Categorical Exclusion to be Applied:

- B6.1 Small-scale, short-term cleanup actions, under RCRA, Atomic Energy Act, or other authorities, less than approximately 5 million dollars in cost and 5 years duration, to reduce risk to human health or the environment from the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance other than high level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, including treatment (e.g., incineration), recovery, storage, or disposal of wastes at existing facilities currently handling the type of waste involved in the action. These actions include, but are not limited to:
- (a) Excavation or consolidation of contaminated soils or materials from drainage channels, retention basins, ponds, and spill areas that are not receiving contaminated surface water or wastewater, if surface water or groundwater would not collect and if such actions would reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;
 - (b) Removal of bulk containers (for example, drums, barrels) that contain or may contain hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, CERCLA-excluded petroleum or natural gas products, or hazardous wastes (designated in 40 CFR part 261 or applicable state requirements), if such actions would reduce the likelihood of spillage, leakage, fire, explosion, or exposure to humans, animals, or the food chain;
 - (c) Removal of an underground storage tank including its associated piping and underlying containment systems in compliance with RCRA, subtitle I; 40

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CFR part 265, subpart J; and 40 CFR part 280, subparts F and G if such action would reduce the likelihood of spillage, leakage, or the spread of, or direct contact with, contamination;

- (d) Repair or replacement of leaking containers;
- (e) Capping or other containment of contaminated soils or sludges if the capping or containment would not affect future groundwater remediation and if needed to reduce migration of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products into soil, groundwater, surface water, or air;
- (f) Drainage or closing of man-made surface impoundments if needed to maintain the integrity of the structures;
- (g) Confinement or perimeter protection using dikes, trenches, ditches, diversions or installing underground barriers, if needed to reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;
- (h) Stabilization, but not expansion, of berms, dikes, impoundments, or caps if needed to maintain integrity of the structures;
- (i) Drainage controls (for example, run-off or run-on diversion) if needed to reduce offsite migration of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum or natural gas products or to prevent precipitation or run-off from other sources from entering the release area from other areas;
- (j) Segregation of wastes that react with one another or form a mixture that could result in adverse environmental impacts;
- (k) Use of chemicals and other materials to neutralize the pH of wastes;
- (l) Use of chemicals and other materials to retard the spread of the release or to mitigate its effects if the use of such chemicals would reduce the spread of, or direct contact with, the contamination;
- (m) Installation and operation of gas ventilation systems in soil to remove methane or petroleum vapors without any toxic or radioactive co-contaminants if appropriate filtration or gas treatment is in place;
- (n) Installation of fences, warning signs, or other security or site control precautions if humans or animals have access to the release; and
- (o) Provision of an alternative water supply that would not create new water sources if necessary immediately to reduce exposure to contaminated household or industrial use water and continuing until such time as local authorities can satisfy the need for a permanent remedy.

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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION - RFFO/CX07-99**

Justification:

The project is a small-scale, short-term cleanup action to remove legacy LLW from the Site. The project will cost approximately two million dollars (including the initial repackaging and follow-on packaging). The project will take more than six months but less than five years. The project will reduce risk to human health or the environment from the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance other than high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. The action will include the removal of wastes that are contained in bulk containers (e.g., drums) which may contain hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. The Site and GTS Duratek facilities currently handle the types of waste that are involved in this action.

In addition, in accordance with 10 CFR 1021.410(b), the project (a) fits within the class of actions listed in Appendix B of Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021, (b) exhibits no extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of its environmental effects, and (c) is not "connected" (per 40 CFR 1508.25[a][1]) to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts (per 40 CFR 1508.25[a][2]), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

The preamble discussion of Categorical Exclusions (40 CFR 1021.410(d)) lists activities that are considered to be necessary to an action covered by a CX. One of the examples used in the discussion is that transportation activities associated with an action are encompassed as a part of the action.

Further, in accordance with 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, the project would not (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including requirements of DOE and/or Executive Orders, (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion as defined in Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021. Therefore, I approve the categorical exclusion of the proposed action from further NEPA review and documentation.

Date: June 30, 1999

Signature: John C. Morris
John C. Morris
RFFO NEPA Compliance Officer